

# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 54

Wednesday 26 March 2014

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## 1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick took the Chair.

## 2. PRAYERS

## 3. QUESTIONS

- 10.01 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister
  - 10.05 Mr Kurrupuwu to Chief Minister
  - 10.07 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister
  - 10.11 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister
  - 10.14 Mr Gunner to Minister for Alcohol Policy (referred to Minister for Alcohol Rehabilitation)
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**Visitors:** The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Student Representative Council and the ICT Leadership Group from Nightcliff Middle School.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitors.

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- 10.17 Ms Lee to Minister for Health
- 10.21 Mr Vatskalis to Minister for Infrastructure
- 10.24 Mr Wood to Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment
- 10.27 Ms Anderson to Minister for Disability Services
- 10.30 Ms Manison to Minister for Health
- 10.32 Mr Higgins to Minister for Central Australia
- 10.35 Ms Walker to Minister for Health
- 10.39 Mr Higgins to Minister for Education
- 10.42 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister
- 10.46 Mr Higgins to Minister for Education
- 10.49 Mr Wood to Minister for Essential Services
- 10.52 Ms Walker to Minister for Local Government and Regions
- 10.54 Mr Kurrupuwu to Minister for Public Employment
- 10.57 Mr Vatskalis to Minister for Transport

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question Paper.

Mr Giles (Chief Minister) further answered a question asked on 25 March 2014.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Giles by leave, laid upon the Table –

1. *Electricity Reform Act*, Notice of Issuing of Electricity Pricing Order, under section 44(8), dated 17 December 2013 (Paper 781).
2. *Electricity Reform Act*, Electricity Pricing Order, under section 44(1)(a), dated 17 December 2013 and Schedule Electricity Pricing Order (Paper 782).

**4. SELECT COMMITTEE ON ACTION TO PREVENT FOETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER**

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) pursuant to notice, moved – That:

1. A Select Committee on Action to Prevent Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder be appointed.
2. The Committee shall inquire into and report on:
  - a. The prevalence in the Northern Territory of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD);
  - b. The nature of the injuries and effects of FASD on its sufferers; and
  - c. Actions the Government can take to protect unborn children from FASD.
3. The Committee's membership shall comprise three Government Members, two Opposition Members and one Independent Member.
4. The Committee may elect a Deputy Chair of the Committee, who may act as the Chair when the Chair is absent from a meeting or there is no Chair of the Committee.
5. A quorum of the Committee shall be three members of the Committee.
6. The committee is to report in the October sittings.
7. The provisions of this resolution, insofar as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

Debate ensued.

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**Visitors:** The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of two Year 5/6 classes from Woodroffe Primary School.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitors.

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Debate continued.

Ms Manison (Member for Wanguri) moved the following amendment –

*omit*

Clause 2, Subclause c.

*insert*

Clause 2, Subclause c.

Actions the Government can take to reduce FASD based on evidence and consultation.

Amendment – put and passed.

Debate continued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr Elferink, Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate suspended.

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**Suspension of sittings:** The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00pm.

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**5. NOTICES**

The following notices were given:

1. Mrs Lambley (Minister for Health) to present a bill entitled – Health Services Bill 2014 (Serial 74).
2. Mr Chandler (Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment) to present a bill entitled – Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 (Serial 76).
3. Mr Elferink (Attorney-General) to present a bill entitled – Criminal Code Amendment (Presumption of Joint Trials) Bill 2014 (Serial 75).

**6. SELECT COMMITTEE ON ACTION TO PREVENT FOETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER – AMENDED MOTION AGREED TO**

Resumption of debate, suspended earlier this day, on the question – That a Select Committee on Action to Prevent Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder be appointed and related matters.

Debate resumed.

Madam Speaker put the question - That the motion as amended be agreed to.

Motion as amended agreed to.

**7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 73)**

Mr Tollner (Minister for Local Government and Regions), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Local Government Act*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tollner moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Tollner laid upon the Table the Explanatory Statement (Paper 783).

On the motion of Ms Walker (Member for Nhulunbuy) debate was adjourned.

**8. DARWIN RATES AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 72)**

Mr Tollner (Minister for Local Government and Regions), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Darwin Rates Act*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tollner moved - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Tollner laid upon the Table the Explanatory Statement (Paper 784).

On the motion of Ms Walker (Member for Nhulunbuy) debate was adjourned.

**9. AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – FEBRUARY 2014 – MOTION TO NOTE AGREED TO**

Resumption of debate on the question – That the Assembly take note of the Report.

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

**10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MOTION TO NOTE**

Resumption of debate on the question – That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate resumed.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr Higgins (Member for Daly), Mr Westra van Holthe (Member for Katherine) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr Chandler (Member for Brennan), Ms Walker (Member for Nhulunbuy) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

On the motion of Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) debate was adjourned.

**11. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – THE AMADEUS GAS PIPELINE – MOTION TO NOTE AGREED TO**

Mr Tollner (Treasurer) made a statement regarding the Amadeus Gas Pipeline.

Mr Tollner moved – That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

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**General Business:** The time being 5.30pm, General Business commenced.

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**12. NIGHTCLIFF ISLAND**

Ms Fyles (Member for Nightcliff) pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly condemns the Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment for:

- Granting a five-year Crown Lease for 98 hectares of Darwin Harbour without going to community consultation about the concept of a man-made residential island;
- Failing to undertake community consultation or preparing a social and environmental impact analysis on the proposed Nightcliff island before issuing a lease and allowing geotechnical drilling to take place; and
- We call on the Minister to stop moves to develop a residential island in our pristine harbour and accept our community values that Darwin is a city built around a uniquely beautiful harbour.

Debate ensued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mrs Lambley (Member for Araluen), Mr Styles (Member for Sanderson) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate suspended.

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The time being 9.00pm, General Business concluded.

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**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

**Paper Tabled:** Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) by leave, laid upon the Table – Fact Check ABC News article, Novis Peris's claim about the NT Banned Drinker Register, Alcohol-related emergency presentations to NT Hospitals The 14 months during and after the banned drinker register (Paper 785).

Debate continued.

And the Assembly adjourned at 9.55pm until Thursday 27 March 2014 at 10.00am.

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**PAPERS**

No papers were deemed to have been Tabled on 26 March 2014.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended the sittings, except Ms Finocchiaro on leave.

MICHAEL TATHAM  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly